DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thomas E. Kocovsky (Reg. No. 28,383) on 2 September 2009.

This application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claim 6.

Replace claim 1, 9, 16 and 24 as follows.

<u>Claim 1:</u>

(i) the first claim limitation (a):

➔ said first correspondent receiving a response A, from a source P, said first correspondent comprising a first arithmetic logic unit <u>of a processor</u>;

(ii) the second claim limitation (b)

➔ said second correspondent receiving a response B from said source P, said second correspondent comprising a second arithmetic logic unit <u>of a processor</u>;

<u>Claim 9:</u>

the very last claim limitation:

➔ wherein d is a minimum distance for correcting erasures and errors to provide said

second correspondent with an ability in conjunction with said response B to determine the

secret key K transmitted from said first correspondent and wherein d is a distance that enforces

a metric on a bit sequence.

Claim 16:

(i) the first claim limitation:

➔ said first correspondent receiving a response A from a source, wherein said first

correspondent is a first computer;

(ii) the second claim limitation:

➔ said second correspondent receiving a response B from a source, wherein said

second correspondent is a second computer;

(iii) the very last 2nd claim limitation:

➔ wherein d is a minimum distance for correcting erasures and errors to provide said

second correspondent with an ability in conjunction with said response B to determine the

secret key K transmitted from said first correspondent and wherein d is a distance that enforces

a metric on a bit sequence.

Claim 24:

(i) the first claim limitation:

➔ sending to a source, a challenge C, from said first correspondent at a time t1, wherein

said first correspondent is a first arithmetic logic unit of a processor;

(ii) the third claim limitation:

➔ sending to said source, said challenge C, from said second correspondent at a time

t2, wherein said second correspondent is a second arithmetic logic unit of a processor;

(iii) the very last claim limitation:

➔ wherein d is a minimum distance for correcting erasures and errors to provide said second

correspondent with an ability in conjunction with said response B to determine the secret key K

transmitted from said first correspondent by satisfying a Hamming distance inequality.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 5 and 7 – 38 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The above mentioned claims are allowable over prior arts because the CPA (Cited Prior Art) of

record fails to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific

added limitations recited in claims 1, 9, 16, 24 and 32 (& associated dependent claims).

Claims 1 – 5 and 7 – 38 are allowable in light of the Applicant's arguments (& claim

amendments) and in light of the prior art made of record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to LONGBIT CHAI whose telephone number is (571)272-3788. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, William R. Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you

would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the

automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Longbit Chai/

Primary Patent Examiner
    Art Unit 2431
        9/3/2009